Guidelines for purchasing transformers by SEBs

2466. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government has made any guidelines through Central Power Research Institute for purchasing transforms by State Electricity Boards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government's attention has been drawn to all reports about the purchasing sub-standard quality transformers by Maharashtra State Electricity Board since last so many years; and

(d) if so, Governments' response and reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Limited has informed that recently in the month of March-April, 2005 a lot of transformers was found defective in the testing by Testing Engineers at Kolhapur. The whole lot of faulty transformers was straightway rejected and action was initiated against defaulters.

Withdrawal of power connections by consumers

†2467. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to the power supply in the rural areas for 4-5 hours a day, thousand of consumers withdraw their power and tubewell connections every year;

(b) if so, the number of villagers (farmers) who have withdrawn their power and tubewell connections during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether Government are considering to lay down a minimum time span to make the electricity available in rural areas;

(d) whether Government are considering to take specific steps to prevent the villagers from withdrawing their electricity connections; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) Government of India, in April 2005 has introduced a new scheme "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) - Scheme of Rural Electricity Infrastructure & Household Electrification" for providing access to electricity to all rural households in **five years.** The scheme would be implemented through the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC).

(d) and (e) Following steps have been taken to increase power supply:

(i) In order to avail assistance under RGGVY, the States, *inter-alia,* must make adequate arrangement for supply electricity and there should be no discrimination in the hours of supply between rural and urban households.

(ii) As per Electricity Act, 2003 the State Government shall endeavour to supply electricity to all areas including villages and hamlets.

(iii) Capacity addition of 1 lakh Mega Watt by 2012.

(iv) Strengthening of transmission system by Power Grid Corporation (India) Ltd.

Long term power purchase agreement betwen PTC and IPP

2468. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Power Trading Corporation (PTC) is planning to enter into long-term Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Independent Power Producers (IPP);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that PTC is planning to acquire equity strakes in Green Field Power Projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?